AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Please amend claims 13, 23 and 31-37 as follows:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-12 (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) A polarizing plate, which has a polarizing layer held between two transparent supports, and which comprises an optical compensation layer containing an optically anisotropic layer on one support among the transparent supports on the side opposite to the polarizing layer, and which comprises at least one anti-glare layer and at least one low-refractive-index layer in this order from the support side on another transparent support on the side opposite to the surface that is in contact with the polarizing layer,

wherein the optically anisotropic layer is a layer that comprises a compound having a discotic structure unit ~~and has a negative birefringence~~, in which the disc planes of the discotic structure units are inclined to the surface of the transparent support at angles changing successively along the normal direction through the optically anisotropic layer.

14. (Original) The polarizing plate as claimed in claim 13, wherein the angles increase with the increase in distance of the optical anisotropic layer from the surface side of the support.

15. (Original) The polarizing plate as claimed in claim 13, wherein the optically anisotropic layer further contains a cellulose ester.

16. (Original) The polarizing plate as claimed in claim 13, wherein the transparent support on the side of the optically anisotropic layer has an optically negative uniaxiality, and has an optical axis in the normal direction of the surface of the transparent support, and satisfies the following equation:

$$20 \leqq \{(nx + ny) / 2 - nz\} \times d \leqq 400$$

wherein d represents a thickness of the optical compensative layer (unit: nm), nx, ny, and nz represent main refractive indices of three orthogonal axes of the optical compensative layer, nz represents a main refractive index in the direction of thickness of the transparent support, and the axes satisfy a relation of $nx \leqq nz \leqq ny$, when it is viewed from the front.

17. (Original) The polarizing plate as claimed in claim 13, wherein an alignment layer is formed between the optically anisotropic layer and the transparent support.

18. (Original) The polarizing plate as claimed in claim 17, wherein the alignment layer comprises a film made of a cured polymer.

19. (Original) The polarizing plate as claimed in claim 13, wherein the optically anisotropic layer is a mono-domain or is formed of a number of domains having a size of 0.1 μm or less.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Previously Presented) A liquid crystal display device comprising the polarizing plate in claim 13 as a display side polarizing plate among two polarizing plates disposed on both sides of a liquid crystal cell, in which the optically anisotropic layer is disposed towards the liquid crystal cell side.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently Amended) A color liquid crystal display device, which comprises a liquid crystal cell comprising a pair of substrates provided with a

transparent electrode, a pixel electrode and a color filter, and a twisted nematic liquid crystal that is sealed between the pair of substrates, a pair of optical compensation sheets disposed on both sides of the liquid crystal cell, and a pair of polarizing plates disposed outside of the compensation sheets,

wherein the polarizing plate as claimed in claim 13 is used, as the polarizing plate and the optical compensation sheet on the display side of the liquid crystal cell, in which the optically anisotropic layer is disposed towards the liquid crystal cell side, and

wherein as the optical compensation sheet on the back light side of the liquid crystal cell, an optical compensation sheet provided with an optically anisotropic layer that comprises a compound having a discotic structure unit ~~and has a negative birefringence~~ is used, in which the disc planes of the discotic structure units are inclined to the surface of the transparent support at angles changing successively along the normal direction through the optically anisotropic layer.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Previously Presented) A liquid crystal display device comprising the polarizing plate in claim 14 as a display side polarizing plate among two polarizing plates disposed on both sides of a liquid crystal cell, in which the optically anisotropic layer is disposed towards the liquid crystal cell side.

26. (Previously Presented) A liquid crystal display device comprising the polarizing plate in claim 15 as a display side polarizing plate among two polarizing plates disposed on both sides of a liquid crystal cell, in which the optically anisotropic layer is disposed towards the liquid crystal cell side.

27. (Previously Presented) A liquid crystal display device comprising the polarizing plate in claim 16 as a display side polarizing plate among two polarizing plates disposed on both sides of a liquid crystal cell, in which the optically anisotropic layer is disposed towards the liquid crystal cell side.

28. (Previously Presented) A liquid crystal display device comprising the polarizing plate in claim 17 as a display side polarizing plate among two polarizing plates disposed on both sides of a liquid crystal cell, in which the optically anisotropic layer is disposed towards the liquid crystal cell side.

29. (Previously Presented) A liquid crystal display device comprising the polarizing plate in claim 18 as a display side polarizing plate among two polarizing plates disposed on both sides of a liquid crystal cell, in which the optically anisotropic layer is disposed towards the liquid crystal cell side.

30. (Previously Presented) A liquid crystal display device comprising the polarizing plate in claim 19 as a display side polarizing plate among two polarizing plates disposed on both sides of a liquid crystal cell, in which the optically anisotropic layer is disposed towards the liquid crystal cell side.

31. (Currently Amended) A color liquid crystal display device, which comprises a liquid crystal cell comprising a pair of substrates provided with a transparent electrode, a pixel electrode and a color filter, and a twisted nematic liquid crystal that is sealed between the pair of substrates, a pair of optical compensation sheets disposed on both sides of the liquid crystal cell, and a pair of polarizing plates disposed outside of the compensation sheets,

wherein the polarizing plate as claimed in claim 14 is used, as the polarizing plate and the optical compensation sheet on the display side of the liquid crystal cell, in which the optically anisotropic layer is disposed towards the liquid crystal cell side, and

wherein as the optical compensation sheet on the back light side of the liquid crystal cell, an optical compensation sheet provided with an optically anisotropic layer that comprises a compound having a discotic structure unit ~~and has a negative birefringence~~ is used, in which the disc planes of the discotic structure units are inclined to the surface of the transparent support at angles changing successively along the normal direction through the optically anisotropic layer.

32. (Currently Amended) A color liquid crystal display device, which comprises a liquid crystal cell comprising a pair of substrates provided with a transparent electrode, a pixel electrode and a color filter, and a twisted nematic liquid crystal that is sealed between the pair of substrates, a pair of optical compensation sheets disposed on both sides of the liquid crystal cell, and a pair of polarizing plates disposed outside of the compensation sheets,

wherein the polarizing plate as claimed in claim 15 is used, as the polarizing plate and the optical compensation sheet on the display side of the liquid crystal cell, in which the optically anisotropic layer is disposed towards the liquid crystal cell side, and

wherein as the optical compensation sheet on the back light side of the liquid crystal cell, an optical compensation sheet provided with an optically anisotropic layer that comprises a compound having a discotic structure unit ~~and has a negative birefringence~~ is used, in which the disc planes of the discotic structure units are inclined to the surface of the transparent support at angles changing successively along the normal direction through the optically anisotropic layer.

33. (Currently Amended) A color liquid crystal display device, which comprises a liquid crystal cell comprising a pair of substrates provided with a transparent electrode, a pixel electrode and a color filter, and a twisted nematic liquid crystal that is sealed between the pair of substrates, a pair of optical compensation sheets disposed on both sides of the liquid crystal cell, and a pair of polarizing plates disposed outside of the compensation sheets,

wherein the polarizing plate as claimed in claim 16 is used, as the polarizing plate and the optical compensation sheet on the display side of the liquid crystal cell, in which the optically anisotropic layer is disposed towards the liquid crystal cell side, and

wherein as the optical compensation sheet on the back light side of the liquid crystal cell, an optical compensation sheet provided with an optically anisotropic layer that comprises a compound having a discotic structure unit ~~and has a negative~~

~~birefringence~~ is used, in which the disc planes of the discotic structure units are inclined to the surface of the transparent support at angles changing successively along the normal direction through the optically anisotropic layer.

34. (Currently Amended) A color liquid crystal display device, which comprises a liquid crystal cell comprising a pair of substrates provided with a transparent electrode, a pixel electrode and a color filter, and a twisted nematic liquid crystal that is sealed between the pair of substrates, a pair of optical compensation sheets disposed on both sides of the liquid crystal cell, and a pair of polarizing plates disposed outside of the compensation sheets,

wherein the polarizing plate as claimed in claim 17 is used, as the polarizing plate and the optical compensation sheet on the display side of the liquid crystal cell, in which the optically anisotropic layer is disposed towards the liquid crystal cell side, and

wherein as the optical compensation sheet on the back light side of the liquid crystal cell, an optical compensation sheet provided with an optically anisotropic layer that comprises a compound having a discotic structure unit ~~and has a negative birefringence~~ is used, in which the disc planes of the discotic structure units are inclined to the surface of the transparent support at angles changing successively along the normal direction through the optically anisotropic layer.

35. (Currently Amended) A color liquid crystal display device, which comprises a liquid crystal cell comprising a pair of substrates provided with a transparent electrode, a pixel electrode and a color filter, and a twisted nematic liquid

crystal that is sealed between the pair of substrates, a pair of optical compensation sheets disposed on both sides of the liquid crystal cell, and a pair of polarizing plates disposed outside of the compensation sheets,

wherein the polarizing plate as claimed in claim 18 is used, as the polarizing plate and the optical compensation sheet on the display side of the liquid crystal cell, in which the optically anisotropic layer is disposed towards the liquid crystal cell side, and

wherein as the optical compensation sheet on the back light side of the liquid crystal cell, an optical compensation sheet provided with an optically anisotropic layer that comprises a compound having a discotic structure unit ~~and has a negative birefringence~~ is used, in which the disc planes of the discotic structure units are inclined to the surface of the transparent support at angles changing successively along the normal direction through the optically anisotropic layer.

36. (Currently Amended) A color liquid crystal display device, which comprises a liquid crystal cell comprising a pair of substrates provided with a transparent electrode, a pixel electrode and a color filter, and a twisted nematic liquid crystal that is sealed between the pair of substrates, a pair of optical compensation sheets disposed on both sides of the liquid crystal cell, and a pair of polarizing plates disposed outside of the compensation sheets,

wherein the polarizing plate as claimed in claim 19 is used, as the polarizing plate and the optical compensation sheet on the display side of the liquid crystal cell, in which the optically anisotropic layer is disposed towards the liquid crystal cell side, and

wherein as the optical compensation sheet on the back light side of the liquid crystal cell, an optical compensation sheet provided with an optically anisotropic layer that comprises a compound having a discotic structure unit ~~and has a negative birefringence~~ is used, in which the disc planes of the discotic structure units are inclined to the surface of the transparent support at angles changing successively along the normal direction through the optically anisotropic layer.

37. (Currently Amended) A color liquid crystal display device, which comprises a liquid crystal cell comprising a pair of substrates provided with a transparent electrode, a pixel electrode and a color filter, and a twisted nematic liquid crystal that is sealed between the pair of substrates, a pair of optical compensation sheets disposed on both sides of the liquid crystal cell, and a pair of polarizing plates disposed outside of the compensation sheets,

wherein a polarizing plate is used and the optical compensation sheet on the display side of the liquid crystal cell, in which the optically anisotropic layer is disposed towards the liquid crystal cell side, and

wherein as the optical compensation sheet on the back light side of the liquid crystal cell, an optical compensation sheet provided with an optically anisotropic layer that comprises a compound having a discotic structure unit ~~and has a negative birefringence~~ is used, in which the disc planes of the discotic structure units are inclined to the surface of the transparent support at angles changing successively along the normal direction through the optically anisotropic layer

wherein the polarizing plate has one of two protective films being an anti-glare and anti-reflection film, and another protective film comprises an optical

compensation layer containing an optically anisotropic layer on the support of said protective film on the side opposite to the support surface which is in contact with the polarizing layer, and

wherein the anti-glare and anti-reflection film has a transparent support and at least one low-refractive-index layer comprising a fluorine-containing resin and having a refractive index in the range from 1.38 to 1.49, wherein the anti-glare and anti-reflection film comprises an anti-glare layer that is disposed between the transparent support and the low-refractive-index layer and that contains a binder having a refractive index in the range from 1.57 to 2.00.